

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 11 and 16 have been amended and are believed to be in condition for allowance as subject matter stated as "allowable" by the Examiner has been incorporated into claims 1, 11 and 16. Claim 18 is newly added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7, 11-14 and 16-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Walter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,959,540). Claims 1, 11 and 16 have been amended to include subject matter from claim 8, which the Examiner regards as allowable over Walter '540. Because the Applicants believe claims 1, 11 and 16 to be in condition for allowance, all claims ultimately depending from claims 1, 11 and 16 are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9-10 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,959,540). Claims 9-10 and 15 now ultimately depend from an independent claim that recites allowable subject matter, as stated by the Examiner. Claims 9-10 and 15 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that Claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have amended portions of claim 8, which are not disclosed by Walter '540, into claims 1, 11 and 16. Therefore, the Applicants believe claim 8 and all claims ultimately depending from claims 1, 11 and 16 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

New Claim 18

The Applicants have added new independent claim 18. Claim 18 is original claim 1 plus "wherein said portable communication device and said detachable component are independently capable of accessing and operating said vehicle in said reduced operational mode upon said detachment." Claim 18 is supported at paragraphs [0018-0019] of Applicants' original disclosure. The Applicants believe claim 18 to be allowable because Walter '540 does not disclose or render obvious, such a structure. In fact Walter teaches away from such a structure as Walter '540 always relies on the key 108 to access the vehicle (see column 3, lines 41-42; and column 3, lines 1-8). Walter '540 is a first generation remote with a traditional, mechanical key attached, as depicted in Figure 2, which teaches away from applicants' communicative fobs and push button starting.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request

that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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